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47 ENTOMBED MINERS FOUND DEAD; OVERCOME BY GAS FUMES, MEN FIND GRAVE BEHIND UNCOMPLETED BULKHEAD

JACKSON, Cal., Sept. 18—All 47 of the miners entombed in the Argonaut mine, August 27, are dead, it was announced officially shortly before 9 o'clock tonight. A note found on one of the bodies indicated that all the men had died within five hours of the beginning of the fire August 27, officials said.

All of the miners were found behind the second of two bulkheads they had built in a cross cut, 4,350 feet down in the Argonaut mine. Byron Pickard, chief of the federal bureau of mines for this district was the first man to go behind the bulkhead and discovered the bodies.

Mine officials declared that the condition of the cross-cut behind the bulkhead was such that life could not have been sustained there by the entombed men for more than five hours.

Mute Evidence of Struggle

The mine officials said that the actions of the men, as evidenced by the bulkheads they built and other matters, indicated they had died within five hours after being entombed. The officials declared the mute evidence of the men's struggles showed they were 47 of the most cool-headed men imaginable.

The entombed miners removed their clothes to provide material for stuffing the cracks in the wooden barrier, hastily constructed, which was found only this evening.

The barrier was built of earth, rock and debris. However, the gas and fumes from the fire apparently seeped through the first bulkhead and the men fled from where they were building the second one to start a third, farther on.

This third attempt to wall off the death-dealing gas was made at the end of the 4,350 foot cross-cut in the Argonaut, but the fact that only a bare start was made at it proved, the mine officials said, that the deadly carbon monoxide and the suffocating dioxide had reached it and performed their fatal office before the 47 unfortunates could raise even an excuse for a barrier.

Death Painless

Mine officials said that death had come to the entombed men painless. The gases, they said, would produce first a lethargy, then a coma and finally death.

Jackson as a whole took the tragic news calmly and courageously. The general topic of conversation, except in the immediate family circles of the dead, was arrangements for the funeral, which it would be a joint affair.

Jackson tonight takes its greatest tragedy in silence. After the first hasty news that 42 men had been found dead in the Argonaut mine, crowds, flowed from homes, stores and hotels. Small groups gathered on the sidewalks and discussed the possibility that some at least of the five others who had been entombed since August 27 were alive.

But news came soon that all the men were dead and the little hope still held by wives, fathers, sisters and sweethearts vanished. Knots of people gathered and gave or received news of this or that dear one who had met fate bravely. Relatives of some of the dead could be seen walking slowly, calmly to the telegraph office to send word to other relatives in distant cities that there no longer was any hope.

Prepared for Worst

Jackson's long period of bitter anxiety desperate struggle and, suspense was over.

Officials thought it likely some, but not all of the bodies, could be removed before morning.

The sad scenes customarily associated with removal of the dead from mine disasters were lacking here tonight. There was no crowd of weeping widows and sorrowing relatives at the mine mouth. Among those gathered at the entrance to the great gold workings, newspaper men and miners and comrades of those entombed predominated. For days the relatives have remained at home under the persuasions of mine officials and Red Cross workers, and tonight it was the Red Cross and sympathetic friends under its guidance that broke the sad news to them.

The time elapsing since the men were entombed had given opportunity to all to prepare for the worst and when that came it was accepted without demonstration.

Most of the miners were of Austrian Italian birth.

Bodies Found Lying Side by Side

Two rows of corpses, lying side by side, ranged along the drift behind the second bulkhead. The men had stripped off their clothing to plug the bulkhead.

One row of bodies was in the main drift and the other at the entry of a fork or cross-cut departing from the main drift at that point. To this underground cross-roads the entombed miners had crept in their endeavor to wall themselves in to safety from the fumes of fire, and that supposed place of refuge became their common grave.

Note Scribbled On Timbers

A note from William Fessel, one of the dead miners, was found scribbled

upon a timber where the bodies lay. It said:

"3 a. m. Gas is getting too strong. We are going to leave you—William Fessel."

Death had not come from starvation, but from gas fumes and it had come in the earliest days perhaps the earliest moments of the disaster, the note indicated. This was confirmed by the condition of the bodies which were not emaciated but the position, which showed that the men had lain down side by side like brothers to die; and by the condition of the second or inner bulkhead, which was but partially built.

This bulkhead was loosely put up across the tunnel. Its timbers had gaping spaces between them, and it offered absolutely no protection against noxious gas or smoke. Some attempt had been made to fill up its seams with loose earth from the bottom of a nearby raise, but this again had not been carried through to completion.

Climbed Too High

It is thought they were overcome while building the bulkhead.

The men had climbed too high in the mine. This fact had caused their death. It was possible by simple evidence to reconstruct the picture of what had happened.

Working, as is known, on the 4,500 foot, 4,600-foot and 4,800-foot levels they had ascended by manways or by ladders of the main shaft to the 4,350 foot level where the bodies were found.

This climb of several hundred feet had taken many minutes. In the meantime, the drift became filled with fumes from the shaft fire. It was recalled that Clarence Bradshaw, shift boss, had smelled smoke at 12 o'clock midnight in the 4,300-foot level which is only 150 feet above the level of the death crypt. The 4,350, too, must have been the early container of much gas.

The miners, under a leadership which will never be known, went as far forward toward the shaft as they could, and threw a timber bulkhead across the drift with the furious speed of men who raced for life.

To make it air-tight, they tore off every stitch of clothing and drove the cloth garments into the cracks that yesterday was found between the pieces of logging.

NOMINEE HUNT SAYS HE FEELS GRATIFIED

George W. P. Hunt, Democratic nominee for the office of governor of Arizona, has issued a statement on the result of the primary election Sept. 12. Mr. Hunt says:

"The vote cast in the primary election indicates a strong progressive tendency on the part of the electorate. The remarkably heavy vote cast in the primary—which exceeded by several thousands the vote for head of the Democratic ticket in the presidential year of 1920—suggests a keen interest in the principles and candidates of the Democratic party and points to the election of the entire Democratic ticket in the November election.

"The primary contest, while keen and waxed warm at times, has left a united party which will sweep the state in the coming election. My endeavor during the contest was to refrain from any act that might injure the Democratic party. My opponent, the Hon. Charles B. Ward, conducted an able and clean campaign.

"Of course, I would not be human if I did not feel gratified over the majority given me in the primary. I did not desire to enter a contest for any office this year, and it was with a great deal of hesitation that I finally bowed to the will of my friends and entered the race. Having won the nomination I shall, of course, bend all my energy toward the success of the entire Democratic ticket. I believe that the people of Arizona are convinced that the election of the Democratic candidates who were nominated in the primary Tuesday is necessary to insure the future progress and prosperity of the Democratic voters of Arizona, as well as the progressive people generally.

SOLDIER TO BAR FOR KILLING OF COMRADE

NOGALES, Ariz., Sept. 19—The trial of William U. Dykes, private in the 25th United States infantry, stationed at Camp Stephen D. Little, here, who shot and killed Corp. Joseph Anderson several months ago, will open in the superior court Friday morning. Dykes claims he killed Anderson because of the corporal's relations with his wife, whose trial on a charge of adultery is scheduled to come up during the fall session of the superior court.

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK



Raymond B. Fossdick, a New York lawyer who is closely associated with John D. Rockefeller, Jr., may succeed President Harry Pratt Judson of the University of Chicago. Mr. Fossdick is nearly forty years old, is a graduate of Princeton university, and during the war served as chairman of a commission on training camp activities for the army and directed athletic work.

THIRST KILLS 2-YEAR OLD BABE LOST ON MESA DESERT

The little body, terribly lacerated by the thorns of the cholla cactus, the 2 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Reeves, living 17 miles west of Mesa on the Mesa-Superior highway, was found dead last night on the desert, about a mile and a half from the home. Death has been caused by thirst and exposure.

Thirty-five men headed by sheriff Montgomery and including the father, searched all day for the little one. Bloodhounds were about to be put on the trail when the father found the little body about 9 o'clock last night lying under a mesquite bush. It was hurried to the Mesa hospital but the child was found to have been dead for some time.

With the 12 year old daughter of the Reeves, the little one left home at 8:30 yesterday morning for a store about three miles away. When about half way to the store the little one complained of being tired. The elder one then left her, telling her to remain there, while she hurried on to the store.

Search Begins

But when she returned to the spot the little one was not there. After a brief but unsuccessful search she hurried on home and informed the mother, who immediately started out to hunt the little one. She failing likewise to find the baby, returned for the father who notified the sheriff and a posse was immediately formed.

After an all day hunt over the desert by 35 men under the hot sun it was the father who found the little body about 9 o'clock last night. The Reeves family have been living on a ranch west of Mesa for about a year, having taken it up as a homestead.

HARDING VETOES SOLDIER BONUS; BILL RETURNED TO CONGRESS BECAUSE PLAN TO RAISE THE CASH IS NOT CARRIED

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19—President Harding vetoed the soldiers' bonus bill today, informing congress in a written message that while he was in accord with the "avowed purpose" of the measure, he did not subscribe to its provisions.

The executive's action was regarded generally in Washington as making impossible a bonus for the world war veterans, at least for some time to come, as it appeared to be almost certain that the veto would be sustained by the senate. A vote in the house was planned for tomorrow, with senate action to follow later in the day, or on Thursday.

Mr. Harding set forth a number of reasons for returning the bill to the house without his approval. These included:

Failure of congress to provide a means of financing.

That inevitably the bonus would mean increased taxation.

That the legislation would wipe out everything thus far accomplished to reduce government expenditures.

That a peace bestowal on the ex-service men, was "a perversion of public funds" and suggested "that future defense is to be inspired by compensation, rather than consciousness of duty to flag and country."

That to add one-sixth of the total sum of the public debt, for distribu-

Democratic Central Committee Will Meet Saturday Night

Owing to a conflict in dates as to the time of meeting of the Democratic County Central Committee, and the State Democratic Central Committee, provided for under the law to follow the late primary election, the meeting of the County Central Committee will be held at the "Y" building in Clifton Saturday evening September 23rd at 8 o'clock, instead of Tuesday next.

Notices were sent out by the retiring Chairman Peter Riley and the retiring Secretary, L. F. Sweeting to the newly elected precinct committeemen on Thursday of this week requesting their attendance at this meeting on Saturday night which is required to be held under the election laws.

The agreement to hold these meetings on Saturday night, owing to a conflict in the dates as fixed by the statutes, was reached at a joint meeting of the Republican and Democratic State Committees held in Phoenix this week.

The newly elected Democratic Precinct Committeemen in Greenlee county are as follows:

Clifton Precinct No. 1—P. Riley, A. L. Terry, John K. Chilton, W. B. Kelly, O. J. Cotey, A. R. Lynch. Clifton Precinct No. 2—R. L. Bailey, George Martin, S. V. Norton, Morenci—R. M. McDougall, F. C. Martin, George Smith, W. E. Lutz, L. J. Owen, Jesse Roscoe, Jr., Metcalf—W. J. Williams, Duncan—H. B. Lovett, Jim Carter, B. F. Billingsley, Guthrie—P. R. Van Bibber, York—W. D. Tucker, Sheldon—Sam R. Tilley, Franklin—Jas D. Wilkins, Blue—J. H. T. Cosper, Eagle—T. P. Wilson.

TWO MEN KILLED BY LIGHTNING ON EAGLE

Sheriff Bradberry and deputy McAllister were called to Eagle Creek last week when a report was received at the sheriff's office that the bodies of two dead Mexicans had been found four miles up Eagle Creek from the pump station.

Upon arrival at the scene the two bodies were found as described and it was quickly apparent that both men had died from a stroke of lightning.

The conditions of the bodies indicated that both men had been dead about five days. The two dead bodies were identified as those of Romulo Sanchez and Jesus Moreno, both well known in Morenci, aged between forty five and fifty years. The latter being a relative of Paul Backer by marriage.

It was learned that the two men had left Morenci on foot in search of some gray horses on Eagle creek. They had evidently been caught in a heavy rain storm and had sought shelter beneath a large sycamore tree. There was scarcely a mark on the bodies but the tree had been rent asunder by the bolt.

The bodies were brought to Clifton by the officers and were prepared here for interment at Morenci.

McCalla Urges All Democrats to Rally to Ticket Nominated

To the Democracy of Arizona: The democracy of the state having spoken, the democratic voters having expressed their preference for candidates on the democratic ticket, it now becomes the duty of democrats everywhere to rally to the support of those chosen.

It is my wish and earnest desire that democrats everywhere rally to the support of the ticket nominated on the 12th day of September to the end that the entire democratic ticket may be successful at the general election November 7, 1922.

Within a few days I shall surrender the chairmanship of your committee. Anticipating this I now desire to express to those who have so loyally supported me in my effort to solidify the party as a means for its future success, my appreciation and hearty thanks.

Again calling the attention of democrats to their duties during the approaching campaign and coming general election, I am, Very truly,

M. H. McALLA,
Chairman Democratic State Central Committee.

Local Happenings

SMELTER SUPERINTENDENT RETURNS

J. O. Ambler, superintendent of the smelter, returned to Clifton this week from a tour of inspection of the smelting plants of the state, and at Cananea, Mexico. He has been gone about three months and states that in almost every camp he visited he found old employees of the district and invariably they were only awaiting the word as to when operations would be resumed here, all expressing the intention of returning to their old homes in Greenlee county.

PHELPS DODGE OFFICIALS HERE

President Walter Douglas and General Manager Beckett, of the Phelps Dodge Corporation, arrived in the district on Sunday and departed Monday for Bisbee after a conference with Manager Hodgson at Morenci. It is one of the regular inspection trips of these officials to the district and it was announced that it had no special significance at this time in relation to a resumption of operations.

BORN—to the wife of Peter Riley Town Councilman, a baby girl. The event occurred on Tuesday.

BACK FROM MIAMI

Sheriff Bradberry returned the latter part of the week from a business trip to Miami following the election. Sheriff Bradberry upon his return gave out the statement that he was 100% for the Democratic ticket from Governor to Constable. This will be no news to his Democratic friends in Greenlee where he has always supported the ticket following a primary election.

FLYING TRIP TO DOUGLAS

Duncan McNeill, of the firm of McNeil & Spezia, made a business trip the first of the week to Douglas and Bisbee.

VISITORS FROM SAFFORD

Hon. George A. Olney and Wilbur Hams, two old timers from Safford were welcome visitors in Clifton on Wednesday. They returned home via Duncan.

DOCTORS WILL LEAVE

Dr. Thomson, of Clifton and Dr. E. J. Rowan, of Metcalf, physicians and surgeons for the Phelps Dodge Corporation, will leave the district shortly, having previously tendered their resignations. The vacancy occasioned by the leaving of Dr. Thomson will be filled at once, but until operations are resumed at Metcalf, no physician will be stationed there for the present.

FOUNDRY RESUMES OPERATION

With A. L. Branch in charge the Phelps Dodge foundry in Clifton has resumed operations again giving employment to ten or fifteen men. The plant will be kept busy for several months at least turning out iron balls for the concentrator at Morenci.

ON VISIT TO SAN FRANCISCO

M. J. Hannon, of the Stargo Co., left Friday morning for San Francisco on a short business trip. In the recent primaries Mr. Hannon was nominated as Representative in the Legislature from District No. 2 including Morenci and Eagle. He will be back in ample time to take part in the campaign.

REPUBLICANS NAME STATE AND COUNTY PRIMARY TICKET

On another page will be found the official tabulated returns of the Primary election in Greenlee county, insofar as the Democratic party is concerned.

There has been no change in the officers named in the Primary as published in the Copper Era last week, either in the state or county. On the editorial page will be found the full list of state and county democratic candidates.

The final results in the Republican primary have been somewhat in doubt as it became necessary to write the names in on the ballots for some of the offices.

The latest returns obtainable in Phoenix as the Copper Era goes to press shows the following Republican ticket nominated:

U. S. Senator—Col. James H. McClintock, Phoenix.
Representative in Congress—Mrs. H. A. Guild.

Judge Supreme Court — O. J. Baughn, Florence.

Governor—Thos. E. Campbell.

Secretary of State—Ernest R. Hall.

State Treasurer—Jane Gregg.

Attorney General—W. J. Galbraith.

Superintendent Public Instruction—Elsie Toles.

Mine Inspector—John F. White.

Corporation Commissioner—R. A. Kirk.

Tax Commissioner—Ed W. Stevens.

Republican County Ticket

State Senator—Dell M. Potter.

State Representative—Dist. No. 1—Mrs. J. A. Terrell.

State Representative—Dist. No. 2—W. C. Crauford.

Sheriff—G. A. Franz.

Treasurer—L. E. Rice.

County Recorder—T. M. Titterton.

Assessor—George Reitzer.

Supervisor District No. 1—Ambrose Spezia.

CHANGE IN TREASURY SAVING CERTIFICATE

The Secretary of the Treasury has just made an announcement of special concern to the readers of the Era who are holders or prospective investors in Treasury Savings Certificates.

Summarized briefly, secretary Mellon announces that, commencing October 1, 1922, a change takes place in Treasury Savings Certificates which then and thereafter will be issued in new form only at the following prices:

\$1000.00 certificates for \$820.00, instead of \$800.00.
\$100 certificates for \$82.00, instead of \$80.00.

\$25 certificates for \$20.50, instead of \$20.00.

Also, that the sale of \$1 Treasury Savings Stamps will be discontinued then.

Meanwhile, the present issue of 4 1/2% Certificates can be purchased until September 30. You will render a distinct service to your patrons by acquainting them at once with this announced change in Treasury Savings Certificates. It means a reduction in interest yield from about 4 1/2% per year to 4%, compounded semi-annually, if held five years to maturity; and from about 3 1/2% per year to 3% if redeemed before the five year maturity period.

In view of steadily declining interest returns on all desirable securities the new 4% Treasury Savings Certificates announced are very attractive investments, providing, as they also do, ideal means of SAVING with ABSOLUTE SAFETY and LIBERAL INTEREST: READY CASH IF WITHDRAWN.

It's not what we make—it's what we save that counts.

Any individual or organization can own from \$25 to \$5000 worth of Treasury Savings Certificates issued in any one year. They can be obtained at all money-order Post Offices and at Federal Reserve Banks, and from or through most other banking institutions.

E. P. & S. W. MAN HERE

J. H. DeBord, superintendent of buildings and bridges on the western division of the E. P. & S. W. division, was on a trip of inspection on the Clifton branch last week.

R. K. Minson, former traffic manager of the A. & N. M. Ry., but now located at Ray, as manager of the railroad company for the Ray Consolidated, was a brief visitor in Clifton, last week.

DELL POTTER BACK FROM EAST

Dell M. Potter returned home this week after an absence of several weeks in the East on business. During his absence he visited Washington, Philadelphia, Detroit, and other eastern points. While in Washington Mr. Potter appeared before the Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.